

# TOWN OF HERNDON

*Enriching the Quality of Life and Promoting a Sense of Community*



## NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **HERNDON MAYOR DEBENEDITTIS NAMED CHAIRMAN OF INTER-GOVERNMENTAL COALITION ON ILLEGAL ALIENS**

Herndon, VA (November 30, 2007) – Stephen J. DeBenedittis, mayor of the Town of Herndon, has been appointed chairman of a multi-jurisdictional group focused on the formulation of recommendations to the Virginia General Assembly regarding the issues surrounding the presence of illegal aliens in the Commonwealth.

DeBenedittis' appointment was made at a coalition meeting in Culpeper, VA, on November 29. Earlier in the month, the Herndon Town Council passed a resolution authorizing the Town's participation in the coalition and appointing DeBenedittis and Vice Mayor Dennis D. Husch as the Town's elected representatives to the group. The coalition was formed initially by an action of the Culpeper County Board of Supervisors and is comprised of 25 member towns, cities and counties to date.

"The Town of Herndon shares with many towns, cities and counties throughout the Commonwealth a concern about the presence of illegal aliens in our community," said DeBenedittis. "This coalition provides a framework for impacted communities to come together to provide focused, consensus-driven recommendations to the General Assembly to address these concerns."

To that end, at the November 29 meeting DeBenedittis and Husch shared with coalition members strategies that have been enacted in the Town of Herndon to address the presence of illegal aliens as well as the Town's positive, respectful approach in dealing with these issues. The November 29 meeting also focused on the organizational structure of the coalition and the establishment of subcommittees addressing safety, social services and law enforcement.

As coalition chairman, DeBenedittis will set the date and location for the coalition's next meeting.

The Town of Herndon was incorporated by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Virginia on January 14, 1879. Located in western Fairfax County, Herndon is the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest town in the Commonwealth and is home to more than 23,000 citizens. Businesses located within the Town of Herndon, which range from high tech enterprises to entrepreneurially-owned establishments, employ approximately 23,500 people. In 2006, Herndon was named one of the "best affordable suburbs" in the nation by *Business Week* Magazine.

For more information, visit the Town's website at [www.herndon-va.gov](http://www.herndon-va.gov).

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